

Illegal drugs are a serious and deadly threat to millions of Americans. In Northern California, methamphetamine production and distribution has become a major problem along the I-5 corridor, with drug traffickers moving their operations farther north in response to stepped-up enforcement elsewhere in the state. Additionally, the use of national forests and other public lands for marijuana cultivation by armed drug trafficking organizations poses a severe safety threat to other users of these lands. To fight this growing problem, I have been working to provide more resources for Forest Service law enforcement and to designate North State counties for federal assistance through the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program.

In order to effectively combat this scourge, we must attack both the supply of and the demand for illegal drugs. To disrupt supply, I support continued enforcement to bring drug traffickers to justice and tough sentencing rules to ensure that they are appropriately punished for their crimes. To reduce demand, I believe we must educate young people about the dangers of drug use and utilize successful treatment options, such as drug courts, to help drug abusers overcome their addiction and become productive members of society.

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